



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Agricultural
Marketing
Service

STOP 0249 - Room 2092-S
1400 Independence Avenue, SW.
Washington, DC 20250-0249

MARCH 2002

**NOTICE TO THE TRADE
FOR
USDA MEAT AND FISH SUPPLIERS
USE OF THE DOMESTIC ELECTRONIC BID ENTRY SYSTEM IS
MANDATORY FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2002-2003 PURCHASES**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is issuing this Notice to the Trade for red meat and fish suppliers that effective with the School Year 2002-2003 invitations, all offers (bids) submitted for the Livestock and Seed (LS) Program purchase programs must be entered into and made through the Domestic Electronic Bid Entry System (DEBES). In May 2001, USDA announced this requirement and suppliers were encouraged to begin submitting their offers through the DEBES system for School Year 2001-2002 purchases.

To assist those suppliers who are not familiar with or currently submitting offers through DEBES, USDA will provide multiple training sessions at the LS Program Supplier Conference in Kansas City, Missouri. The sessions are scheduled for May 1 and 2, 2002. Suppliers are encouraged to participate in one or more of these sessions to learn more about DEBES and how to submit their offers. The scheduled times for the four training sessions are as follows:

May 1, 2002, (Wednesday)	6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.;
May 2, 2002, (Thursday)	11:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.;
	12:00 p.m. – 12:30 p.m.;
	3:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Since space is limited at the training sessions, USDA is encouraging interested suppliers to register as soon as possible. The sessions will be conducted at the Holiday Inn-KCI, 11832 Plaza Circle, Kansas City, Missouri, 64153, (816/464-2345).

Attached are copies of the browser requirements, Internet addresses for the production and practice sites, LS Program Vendor Identification application, and DEBES registration form. Only those suppliers that are approved to participate in LS Program purchase programs may submit a Logon ID application request and receive a Logon ID.

If further information is needed on the DEBES system, please contact Henrietta Cooke on 202/720-2650.

Barry L. Carpenter

Barry L. Carpenter
Deputy Administrator
Livestock and Seed Program

REGISTER FOR DEBES TRAINING SESSION
ANNUAL LIVESTOCK AND SEED PROGRAM
DEBES TRAINING SESSIONS
MAY 1 OR 2, 2002
AT
HOLIDAY INN KCI
11832 PLAZA CIRCLE
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI 64153

For lodging reservations, call (816) 464-2345 and request Livestock and Seed Conference rate.

SPONSORED BY USDA's AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

Fax this registration form to Dorothy Borja at: (202) 720-9538 by April 12, 2002

COMPANY NAME: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____

STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

BUSINESS PHONE: _____

Informational sessions for the electronic bid system will be held during the following time periods.

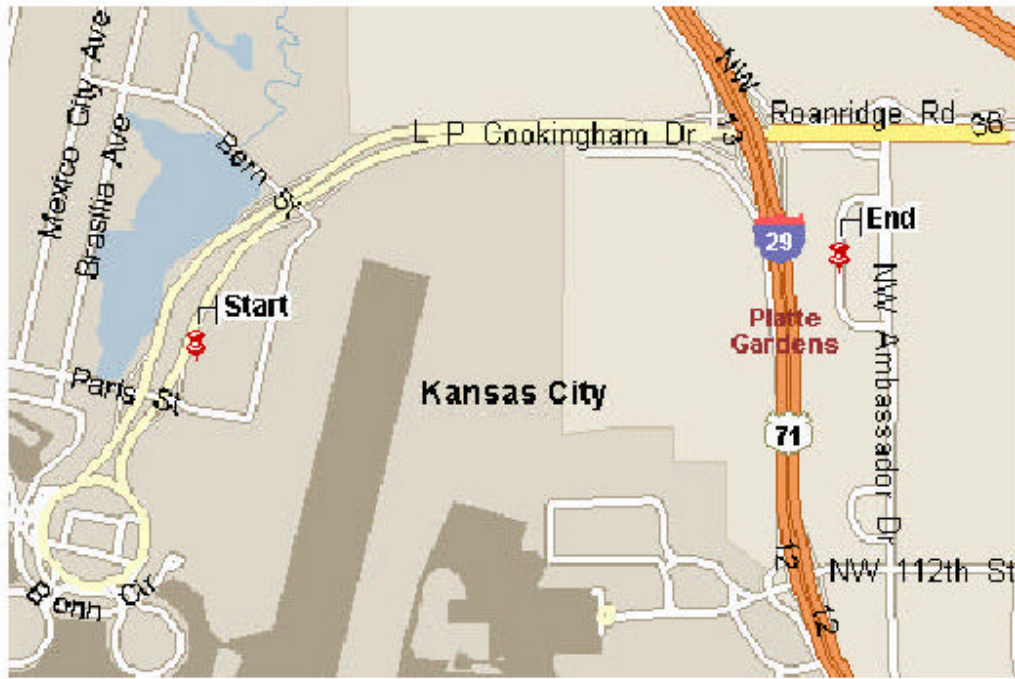
PARTICIPANT'S
FIRST AND LAST NAME, TITLE

PLEASE SELECT TRAINING SESSION
NOTED BELOW

Please check or circle appropriate session time.

Participant First & Last Name	Title/Position	Wednesday 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.	Thursday 11:00-11:30 a.m. or 11:30-12:00 p.m.	Thursday 3:30 - 4:00 p.m.
			11:00 - 11:30 a.m. 11:30 - 12:00 p.m.	
			11:00 - 11:30 a.m. 11:30 - 12:00 p.m.	
			11:00 - 11:30 a.m. 11:30 - 12:00 p.m.	

Sign-up may be conducted at the conference. However, space will be limited on first come first served basis.



DIRECTIONS:

Depart KCI Airport on Local Road (West).

Turn **RIGHT** onto L P Cookingham Drive.

Turn **RIGHT** onto NW Ambassador Drive.

Turn **RIGHT** onto NW Plaza Circle.

Turn **RIGHT** into Holiday Inn's Parking Lot: 11832 NW Plaza Circle, Kansas City, Missouri.

Browser Requirements For DEBES

Netscape 4.07 or above
Internet Explorer 5.0 or above

The browser must be capable of handling 128 bit encryption. To determine this:

In IE, go to **Help/About Internet Explorer**. The display will show:

Cipher Strength: 128-bit

If it does not, you will need to download a new version of the browser from Microsoft at <http://www.microsoft.com>.

In Netscape, go to **Help/About Communicator**. The display will show:

**This version supports U.S. security with
RSA Public Key Cryptography, MD2, MD5,
RC2-CBC, RC4, DES-CBC,
DES-EDE3-CBC.**

If it does not, you can download a new version of the browser from Netscape at <http://home.netscape.com/download/index.html?cp=djucc4>. Choose the 128 bit Strong Encryption* version for your download.

The **Vendor Practice** site URL address is:

<https://pcsd.usda.gov:3050/mdbc1000.exe?>

The **Production** site URL address is:

<https://pcsd.usda.gov:3077/mdbc1000.exe?>

Proxy Servers

Most connection problems are the result of improper browser version, not using 128 bit encryption, and connecting through your corporate proxy server. The proxy server must be set up to allow HTTPS protocol through the appropriate port; Vendor Practice is port 3050 and Production is port 3077.

LIVESTOCK AND SEED PROGRAM
VENDOR REQUEST FOR LOGON IDENTIFICATION (ID) AND PASSWORD
DOMESTIC ELECTRONIC BID ENTRY SYSTEM (DEBES)

COMPANY INFORMATION:

COMPANY NAME		
Street Address		
City	State	Zip Code
Person to receive Vendor ID and password		
Method to receive Vendor ID and password: (Complete one)		
----- Telephone:		
----- Fax:		
----- E-Mail:		
Assign 5-8 digit alpha/numeric personal identification number (PIN) for company: _____ (This code will be used as verification by USDA when assigning or resetting a password)		
NAME AND TITLE OF PERSON REQUESTING LOGON ID: (Must be authorized on SF-129 to sign bids) Name _____ Title _____ Signature _____ Date _____		

TO BE COMPLETED BY USDA:

VENDOR LOGON ID: ("A" and 6 digits)	PASSWORD: (must be changed at first DEBES logon):
Notified: _____ (Company Representative)	
Date: _____	
USDA Marketing Specialist: _____	
Date: _____	

PLEASE FAX TO: Henrietta Cooke, Commodity Procurement Branch, LS Programs 202-720-9538

FOR INFORMATION CALL 202/720-2650